DAWN OF DC

59

HOWARD
RAFFAELE
GANDINI

CATWOMAN™

NINE LIVES BEGINS HERE!

13+
TEEN

D.NA 7.23

CAN THE TITANS SAVE THE WORLD...FROM THEIR TEAMMATE?!

TITANS BEAST WORLD

DAWN OF DC

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WRITTEN BY
TOM TAYLOR
AND MORE

ART BY
IVAN REIS
AND MORE

A UNIVERSE-SHATTERING CROSSOVER STARTING IN NOVEMBER

The **Palacio Egipcio** is the only full Egyptian temple replica in the Americas.

MEDELLÍN, COLOMBIA

MARKET PHONE

It's usually a beautiful, quiet place.

The kind of place some people come to **think.**

Others come to **hide.**

But he's not hiding from **me.**

SWIIIISH

KRAK!

He's hiding from **her.**

GATUBELA!

YOU HAVE TO HELP ME!

I DID. NOW **RUN!**

This is **Paola Molina,** but she prefers the name **Santa Espada, Our Lady of the Sword.**

I would too.

We're circling each other like lions. She wants to follow me to my home, and I need to follow her to hers.

I can lose her. She's let a **cat** get away before.

One time, she lost her **pet, Duchess.**

Now I've got to get her back to her owner and **out** without dying.

Which might be a problem. She's got a policy--no one leaves her presence alive.

CH-CHK

Lucky for me, that means she's out of practice at tracking her prey once they get **away.**

BRATTATTAT!

Not so lucky for him, though.

Don't worry, kittens, I've got time to explain.

Now that I've taught everything I know of **survival** to the people of Gotham--

Now that I've got this old costume on again--

And now that I've smoothed things over with the Bat, said **I love you** in our own, silent ways--

I've got **lives** to burn.

CATWOMAN
NINE LIVES PART 1

TINI HOWARD STORY
STEFANO RAFFAELE ARTIST
VERONICA GANDINI COLORS
LUCAS GATTONI LETTERS
DAVID NAKAYAMA COVER
TIRSO CONS & JORGE FORNÉS VARIANT COVERS
DANI 1:25 VARIANT COVER
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I've heard that when you die, it's like going through one last door.

I've had my **heart removed,** I've **faked my death,** I've gotten near that final door more times than I can count.

But I've never gone **through** it.

Not until I felt a quarter ton of space rock land on my ribcage at terminal velocity.

Then I felt nothing.

I was **dead.** I know I was dead.

But with all Vandal Savage's talk of **immortality**...I guess **anything** was possible.

SORRY-- I'M JUMPY.

...THANK YOU. FOR HELPING ME. I'M...I THINK I'M OKAY NOW, THOUGH.

HOWEVER *IMPOSSIBLE* THAT SEEMS.

...I LOOK AFTER THE CATS.

EVERY CAT HAS NINE *LIVES.*

BUT SOMETIMES THEY NEED A LITTLE HELP FINDING THEIR WAY BACK.

OH, HONEY... CATS AREN'T IMMORTAL. I *WISH* THAT WERE TRUE--

NOT *IMMORTAL.*

REBORN.

BORN NINE TIMES.

AAAH!

...THEN THEY WERE GONE. HER, THE CATS, ALL OF IT. SO I CAME *HERE*...I CAN'T HAVE ANYONE ELSE KNOW I'M ALIVE.

I DON'T KNOW WHAT I'M DOING WITH IT YET...BUT I HAVE A SECOND CHANCE, EIKO.

...OR *MORE* THAN A SECOND, IF YOU BELIEVE THE CAT LADY.

...YOU'RE SUGGESTING SHE'S BEING *LITERAL?*

NINE LIVES. SHE SAID IT, NOT ME.

MAYBE YOU WERE GRANTED EXTRA *DOSES* OF THE *IMMORTALITY* VANDAL WAS PROMISING.

...YOU'RE RIGHT THAT IT'S *SOMETHING.* I HAVEN'T EVEN NEEDED TO TAKE AN ASPIRIN.

SOMETHING *HEALED* ME. NOT FROM THE EDGE OF DEATH, BUT *THROUGH THAT DOOR AND BEYOND.*

HRM. IT DOESN'T SOUND *THAT* CRAZY, SELINA.

"YOU WOULDN'T BE THE FIRST SERVANT OF THIS CITY TO BE GIVEN A TEST LARGER THAN YOURSELF.

"TO BE GIVEN A GIFT AND BE EXPECTED TO USE IT, FOR *GOOD.*"

THERE'S SOMETHING ELSE, TOO. I SHOULD SHOW YOU--

...NOW YOU'RE TESTING *ME?*

THEY'RE NOT INK. THEY'RE ***PART OF MY SKIN.*** I DIDN'T NOTICE THEM UNTIL I FELT THEM LIKE ***ICE*** ON MY BACK HALFWAY HERE. AND ONE OF THEM...

...IS FILLED IN BLACK.

LIKE IT'S THE LIFE YOU ***SPENT*** ALREADY.

WHICH BEGS THE QUESTION... CAN I ***SPEND*** THE OTHERS AND STILL COME ***BACK?***

I KNOW YOU CAN, ***SELINA.***

THERE'S NOTHING YOU CAN'T STEAL.

IF IT'S TRUE, THAT EACH OF THESE IS A ***CHANCE,*** AN EXTRA ***LIFE*** TO STEAL FROM THE JAWS OF ***DEATH***... THINK OF WHAT YOU COULD DO WITH THAT.

THERE'S NO SHORTAGE OF THINGS I HAVEN'T DONE BECAUSE I WASN'T WILLING TO ***DIE*** FOR THEM.

SPEND 'EM LIKE YOU GOT 'EM, RIGHT?

THEY COULD BELONG TO ***NO ONE BETTER.***

BUT YOU KNEW YOU WERE LEAVING GOTHAM. THAT'S WHY YOU CAME TO *ME*, YES?

TO ASK ME TO BE *CATWOMAN* HERE IN GOTHAM WHILE YOU'RE GONE?

IF IT DOESN'T TAKE YOU AWAY FROM YOUR FAMILY BUSINESS.

SOMETHING *NEEDS TO.*

I CAN'T LOSE MYSELF TO THAT LIFE ENTIRELY. MY *FATHER* KNEW THAT, BUT HE'S DEAD NOW. IT'S UP TO *ME* TO CONTROL MYSELF.

THANK YOU, EIKO. YOU'RE THE ONLY ONE I CAN TRUST WITH THIS.

NOT *DARIO?* THAT'LL CRUSH HIM.

I CAN TRUST *HIM.*

BUT I CAN'T TRUST *MYSELF* TO SAY GOODBYE IF I SEE HIM.

SHOULD I TELL HIM TO FEED DUCHESS?

"THAT WON'T BE NECESSARY."

bat bat bat

"IT'S TIME FOR HER TO GO HOME TO HER MAMA."

BARRIO PRADO, MEDELLÍN. THE HOME OF PAOLA MOLINA.

Legend says that she has been betrayed more than any woman alive.

Now **that's** a record.

Everyone in her inner circle is someone she knows and trusts, from her bodyguards to the girls that bring her groceries and do her immaculate nails.

She only meets through intermediaries. She never **fires** her staff...

COME IN, SANTA ESPADA.

If they displease her, they die.

TSST! SHOO.

SPEAK TO ME.

CATWOMAN HAS BEEN SPOTTED IN THE **BARRIO.**

IN ADDITION TO THAT, WE JUST DETECTED **TWO** HEARTBEATS IN THE MAIN HOUSE.

TWO?!

YES MA'AM.

ONE **LARGE**, ONE **SMALL.**

If she knows your name **and** face, you don't leave her presence **alive.**

Which is why having her **cat** stolen was a particular blow.

WHO LEFT THE WINE CELLAR OPEN?!

SEÑORA, I WAS WALKING RIGHT BACK TO GET ANOTHER BOTTLE FOR YOU, AND--

BRATTATTATATATTA!

HE KNEW THE RULES WHEN HE ARRIVED.

CLEAN THAT UP, GUARDS, AND PATROL EVERY INCH OF THIS PLACE!

The cat wasn't the only one to leave her presence alive--

Duchess went with a **man**--

Her **ex.** **Valmont.**

Who brought the cat to **me.**

I didn't even **use** the wine cellar, by the way.

This house is a hundred years old, and Paola's tight security measures don't target **local monkeys.**

She killed that man for **nothing.** She's eager to kill **me.**

I don't know if Valmont did this all on purpose or if it's a stupid mistake. But my first **deadly mission** is taking her home. And if I die...

...let's pray I come back.

MOVE! WE'VE GOT MOVEMENT IN THE WALLS!

Sitrep: her guards, **los apóstoles,** are armed to the teeth and paid to kill on sight.

She's the **hardest woman in the world** to get close to. I have to respect **that.**

ACTIVATE WALL DEFENSES.

KILL KILL

ZOOP

AH!

SSS!

DUCHESS!

RRRRR...

YOU'RE OKAY.

...and despite that shock feeling like it **stopped my heart,** so am I.

Must be rubber in this old costume.

Wine cellar was the first place they looked for me, so it'll be the **last** place they check.

A moment to cool my heels and get the Duchess a treat--

MROW!

SHINK!

YOU COULD HAVE JUST PUT MY CAT BY THE GATE AND LEFT--

SURELY THIS IS NOT *WORTH YOUR LIFE?!*

ANYTHING IT TAKES TO GET CLOSE ENOUGH TO YOU TO *STOP* YOU.

STOP ME? I DESERVE TO LIVE ALONE, PROTECTED.

NOT WITH ALL THE *BLOOD* YOU'VE SHED.

YOU'RE NOT HERE FOR HEROICS.

I REALLY CAN'T LET YOU SLAUGHTER THE LOCALS YOU HIRE AS *HELP.*

YOU BROUGHT THAT *CAT.* DON'T *MOCK ME.*

She's a little right. I can't resist two things.

One: a chance to see the Palacio Egipcio.

Think of it as a pilgrimage to the Cat Goddess.

And two...

...I JUST WANT TO *TALK.*

CAPE CARMINE.

"IF I WAS GOING TO LEAVE GOTHAM I COULDN'T LEAVE LOOSE ENDS.

"THERE'S ONE MAN ALIVE WHOSE *FEELINGS* I CARE ABOUT HURTING WITH MY DISAPPEARANCE.

"SO I LET HIM SEE ME.

"HE KEEPS MY SECRETS.

"AND FORGIVES MY TRESPASSES."

VALMONT. YOU COME TO GLOAT?

I DIDN'T CARE THAT HE *LEFT ME,* CATWOMAN. THAT MAN HAS SEEN ME IN POSITIONS I'D LIKE KEPT PRIVATE. I CARED THAT HE DIDN'T LET ME *KILL HIM.*

THEN YOU'LL BE VERY GLAD TO KNOW HE'S DEAD.

DEAD? VALMONT?

WHO *KILLED HIM?!*

...I DID.

AND YOU CALL ME HEART-LESS?!

YOU KILLED THE ONLY MAN I EVER LET LIVE!

SO YOU'LL KILL ME NOW?!

IS THAT HOW IT'S GONNA BE, *SANTA ESPADA?* EVERYONE IN THIS WORLD LIVES AND DIES BY *YOUR* HEART'S DESIRE?!

YES, CATWOMAN.

SHHHHNK

AUUUGHH!

THIS IS *MY* TEMPLE.

YOU CAN KILL ME *AFTER*--JUST *LISTEN TO ME!*

PAOLA-- PLEASE! DO YOU WANT TO KNOW WHY HE TOLD ME ABOUT YOU?!

"ONCE YOU OPEN YOUR HEART TO SOMEONE... YOU NO LONGER GET TO DECIDE WHEN THEY MOVE OUT.

KLIK

"EVEN IF THEY DIE, THEIR THINGS STICK AROUND.

"IT'S UP TO YOU TO KEEP THEM, OR THROW THEM AWAY."

THIS SUIT ALMOST MAKES ME FEEL *YOUNGER*, DUCHESS.

PRRR

"I DELIVERED WHAT I NEEDED TO DELIVER--

SMAK!

"--AND PREPARED TO LEAVE GOTHAM."

VALMONT TOLD ME WHERE DUCHESS WAS FROM, AND SAID I SHOULD NEVER ATTEMPT TO RETURN HER UNLESS I WAS WILLING TO *DIE* FOR IT.

HAH!

LUCKY CAT.ZIP

"I TOLD HIM THE *TRUTH*--THAT I HAD COLLECTED MISSIONS JUST LIKE THAT, OVER THE YEARS.

"GORGEOUS SCORES AND GREAT RESCUES...ITCHES I WANTED TO *SCRATCH.*

"...BUT THEY WEREN'T QUITE WORTH DYING FOR.

HE SAID THERE WAS NO ONE YOU WOULDN'T HUNT DOWN AND *KILL* IF THEY GOT AWAY FROM YOU--

--NO ONE EXCEPT *HIM,* OF COURSE.

READY TO GO HOME, DUTCHIE?

MROW!

I DIDN'T CARE THAT HE *WANTED* YOU-- HOW DARE HE *DIE FOR YOU?!*

WHEN YOU GET TO HELL... *STAY AWAY* **FROM MY MAN.**

H--KK!

PLEASE--

LISTEN-- TO ME--

WHY WON'T YOU *DIE?!*

JUST LISTEN!

WWWEEEOOOO

HEAR THAT? YOUR GUARD COMMS ARE *SILENT.* THEY'RE OFF.

NO!

WWEEEOOOO

WWWEEOOOEEOO

YOU SAID YOU WANTED TO *TALK!* WOMAN TO WOMAN!

I *LIED.* I DON'T LIKE COPS.

BUT I LIKE KILLERS *EVEN LESS.*

YOUR *STAFF,* THE HUMAN BEINGS YOU RUTHLESSLY *KILLED,* HAD COME TO MEDELLÍN FROM ALL OVER THE GLOBE.

PEOPLE ALL OVER THE WORLD ARE LOOKING FOR THEIR FAMILIES--AND THE TRAIL COMES RIGHT HERE TO YOU.

YOU'RE RIGHT--NO ONE COULD GET CLOSE TO YOU AND LIVE--NOT *ALONE.* BUT I GOT IN AND STAYED ALIVE LONG ENOUGH FOR INTERPOL TO ARRIVE.

WAIT-- VALMONT DIDN'T SEND YOU TO ME?!

HE DID. *HE* THOUGHT WE'D GET *ALONG.*

WHAT HE DIDN'T COUNT ON WAS HOW DIFFERENT HE WAS...FROM *ME.* I CAN'T LOVE A KILLER.

YOU'RE A *SERIAL MURDERER,* SANTA ESPADA, ALL OUT OF SOME MISPLACED SENSE OF *BETRAYAL* AND *JUSTICE.*

I DIDN'T WANT TO BE YOUR FRIEND. BUT I WAS WILLING TO DIE TO STOP YOU.

GATÚBELA?!

POLICÍA INTERPOL COLOMBIA

GATÚBELA!

But I didn't ***have*** *to die to stop her.*

Right?

POLICÍA INTERPOL

INTE

I kept the cat. She's happier with us.

And it let me check in on Gotham for the last time in a while...

OOF, HEY, EIKO SAID YOU WERE GONE!

I KNEW YOU'D COME BACK.

PRRPRR PRR

...EIKO? THAT *YOU*?

I guess I just couldn't resist--seeing the last person who got to know Valmont before me.

And she was just another heartless killer.

I got what I needed, and Duchess is happy. More importantly, I got out alive--meaning one more **deadly mission** I can take on, for less selfish reasons.

But I should have known it wasn't that easy.

Nothing is free.

We all have fewer chances than we think...

Death is a **thief.** We know our own.

Dying doesn't have to have your approval. It doesn't have to make sense to you, or feed your ego. It makes worm food of us all. The security shock, Paola's blades-- I've let these chances make me sloppy.

TSSSHH!

Nine missions? **Eight** missions? I'll be lucky to complete half those now that I died **twice** today.

Death steals time. But I'm the better thief.

NEXT: A SHOW TO DIE FOR!

GOTHAM HAS SOMETHING NEW TO FEAR.

BATMAN '89 *Echoes*

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WRITTEN BY
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ART BY
JOE QUINONES

A 6-ISSUE SERIES | NOVEMBER

FEATURING THE
BATMAN '89
DEBUTS OF
HARLEY QUINN
AND **SCARECROW!**

DC NATION SPOTLIGHT ON

DAWN OF DC

TITANS BEAST WORLD

FOLLOW ALONG WITH ALL THE ACTION IN THE UNPRECEDENTED *TITANS* CROSSOVER!

NOVEMBER

- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD: EVOLUTION*
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #1

DECEMBER

- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD: WALLER RISING*
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD TOUR: METROPOLIS*
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #2
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD TOUR: GOTHAM*
- *ACTION COMICS* #1060
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD TOUR: CENTRAL CITY*
- *NIGHTWING* #109
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #3
- *TITANS* #6

JANUARY

- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD TOUR: ATLANTIS*
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #4
- *TITANS* #7
- *NIGHTWING* #110
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #5
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD TOUR: STAR CITY*
- *TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #6

***TITANS: BEAST WORLD* #1**
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SON OF ULTRON

"THIS FAN... THIS MONSTER!"